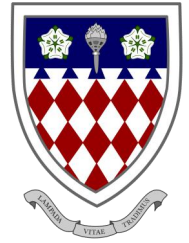


Spalding High School

Weekly Bulletin

19th June 2025



Sometimes at the High School you have a moment when you just have to stop. Look around. Gasp (either out loud or in your head) and marvel in just how wonderful our students, staff and School are. Sometimes you get multiple moments like this in quick succession and as Head it makes me grateful for how lucky I am to be head of a school like this. The first 'moment' for me in recent days was wandering around the Art Exhibition. Goodness, the work this year is absolutely tremendous—well done to everyone involved. The second 'moment' came on Monday at our first World Music and Culture Day. The feeling in the hall was electric, people had to just keep popping in and out (me included) to experience what was going on. I don't mind telling you it was absolutely breathtaking and some of the performances left staff visibly emotional. This is definitely a day that is going to become a High School tradition. Thank you to everyone for sharing!

M K Anderson, Headmistress

Music News

World Music & Culture Day 2025

Spalding High School's inaugural World Music & Culture Day was held in the School Hall on Monday to celebrate the incredible diversity of our School community. The event featured a vibrant, colourful mix of music, dance, food and cultural displays from 27 different national backgrounds represented in our School. The students put a tremendous amount of effort into preparing costumes, performances, and cultural displays, and were truly excited to be able to share their heritage with their peers. The event was a tremendous success and the students are already looking forward to making next year's event even bigger!

Mr Garbett, Head of Music



World Music Day 2025 was an amazing day full of music from all over the world! Different year groups performed lots of different styles, like Bollywood beats, classical music, and pop songs. Every performance was fun and exciting to watch.

One of the best parts was visiting the stalls, where we tried out new instruments, joined in fun activities, and learned about music and cultures from different countries. It was cool to see how music is celebrated in so many ways.

We also got to taste foods from different countries, which was delicious! Trying new flavours helped us understand more about those cultures and made the day even better.

Everyone in the School joined in, smiling, clapping, and dancing together. It really showed how music and food can bring people together and make happy memories.

We can't wait to see what next year's World Music Day will be like! A big thank you to Mr Garbett for organising this brilliant day.

Dikshitha 7N



Student of The Week - Week Commencing 9th June 2025

Please find below the latest 'Student of the Week' nominations. Nominations can be made by both teaching and support staff and can be subject related or community focused.

Form	Student	Staff	Reason
7C	Wiktorina Gren	Mr Garbett	Music
7C	Iris Thomas	Mrs J Lord	English
7C	Kristina Hill	Mrs Hoodless	Geography
7C	Ruth Briggs	Mr Hemsall	History
7J	Brooke Ayriss	Mrs Nowak	Mathematics
7N	Ellie Tunnard	Mrs Martin	Mathematics
7S	Meda Allatt Betts-Gray	Mrs Spinks	Mathematics
7S	Evelyn Jesson	Miss Bailey	German
7S	Priya Naghen	Miss Pettefar	English
8C	Kashi Sisodiya	Mrs Cave	Religious Education
8C	Kashi Sisodiya	Mrs Busfield	Science
8N	Lacey Bourne	Mr Fovargue	Computer Science
8N	Jessica Day	Mrs C Aurikko	Science
8P	Ellenor Small	Mrs Knowles	German
9C	Freya Hampshire	Miss Magnus	Community
9C	Isla Stockdale	Miss Magnus	Physical Education
9N	Maddison Cripps	Mrs Clay	French
9P	Daisy Young-Smith	Miss Chalcraft	Mathematics
10C	Megan Chetri	Mr Ganger	Mathematics
11S	Ava Ilott	Miss Ashley	Biology
6SC	Seth Cook	Mrs C Lord	Mathematics
6TD	Karolis Bledis	Mrs Martindale	Biology

Sports News

House Diamond Cricket Results

A big thank you to all the form groups who participated in the House Diamond Cricket competition! Once again, it was a highly competitive event, showcasing impressive performances in both batting and fielding across all year groups. Congratulations to the winning forms from each year group:

Year 7: Nightingale

Year 8: Pankhurst

Year 9: 1st and 2nd joint on points and only separated by total number of runs scored...

⇒ **2nd = Sharman (67 runs)**

⇒ **1st = Curie (81 runs)**

Year 10: Sharman



Miss Jones,
PE Department



English News

Excellence in Creative Writing

Wandering through this familiar dense and thriving forest, over the long-fallen crackling leaves, a brisk wind blows on my face, I feel at home. I trace the familiar roots and ancient oaks to the centre lake, tranquil water lapping hypnotically against the smooth bank, left to erode for centuries. It's swampy water drowning nearby trees which will soon meet their demise at the hands of this idyllic trap. The unknowing plants lulled to its murky depths with promises of prosperity and nutrition. I notice, as is custom on a bleak day, a beaver milling around the lakeside, carrying a small stick. Waddling over a patch of water lilies and then towards a barren beech, whose leaves and some lower branches have mostly fallen off, to retrieve a miniature bough. I muse over these intelligent creatures for a moment before continuing my journey. The meandering paths were a maze, unknowns at the end of each, tempting me to follow.

The familiar clearing comes into view, looking out of place inside the greenery, jutting and disjointed rocks juxtaposed with the melodic bird song which filters through the opaque canopy, sheltering its delicate woodland life below. Being inside the dense woodland sends a spark of warmth inching through my spine, bitter cold creating almost a mask protecting me from the petty dangers lurking. Robust statues guard the undergrowth, protruding from the damp is a cluster of soft moss. Sly bees stalk the patches of marsh marigold, stealthily waiting for a chance to retrieve their rewarding pollen. Iridescent wings allow them to float as if they are puppets pulled by the strings of nature. Vulnerable beetles battle their way through the treacherous jungle that is the blades of grass, scattered in clumps, inching towards the enticing sage green leaf. The paradoxical relationship between these two foes thrives in this complex ecosystem. A magpie flies high above, whilst I see a mouse scuttling around beneath an oak. Sunshine playfully peers around the corners of trees before changing its mind and disappearing once again.

As I always do, I arrive at the lookout point, gushing water rushes underneath the wooden bridge. Standing in the middle I can smell the freshwater filtering in and around the rocks. The crashing and babbling fill my eardrums. Up ahead I spy a road, which I follow for a few minutes. On either side are cottages, puffs of warm smoke ascend through them onto the welcoming sky, the scattered clouds high above smiling down, are occasionally interrupted by dragonflies which hover just above the bushes. Their wings rotating as quickly as my eye could detect, suspending gravity for a second. Further down the track a wonderfully elegant group of bluebells can be seen, they seem to have arrived since my last visit, though the sun shines above, I can feel the spring air enveloping me, happy in the comfort that this long winding road will lead me back into the arms of my home.

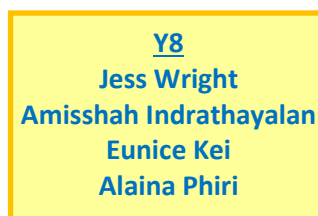
Ava Willis 8P

Maths News

Junior Maths Challenge

Last month, 64 Y7 and 70 Y8 students took part in the Junior Maths Challenge – a national competition that tests problem-solving and mathematical reasoning skills. We are delighted to report an excellent set of results, with over 50% of the students achieving a Bronze, Silver, or Gold certificate. A huge well done to everyone who took part!

Special congratulations go to the students who earned Gold certificates in Year 8 and Year 7...



A fantastic achievement!

Among the Gold award winners, **Smitakshi, Jess, Amisshah and Eunice** scored enough to qualify for the prestigious **Junior Kangaroo** round, a follow-on challenge for the highest scorers in the country.

Here's what some of our Kangaroo qualifiers had to say about their experience last week:

I really enjoyed doing the Junior Maths challenge because when I do this I am not under any pressure; I say to myself that it is just to challenge yourself and I was so happy that I have the chance to do the Junior Kangaroo when I got the result of my score on the Junior Maths challenge.

Eunice

I really enjoyed the Junior Kangaroo because it was quite hard I got my brain to think outside the box
Smitakshi

Last Tuesday, four of us in Year 8 took part in the Junior Kangaroo Maths Challenge.

We were able to do this because we scored highly in the previous challenge. I found the paper enjoyable but demanding and I think it was a very good experience to apply maths in a new way.

Jess

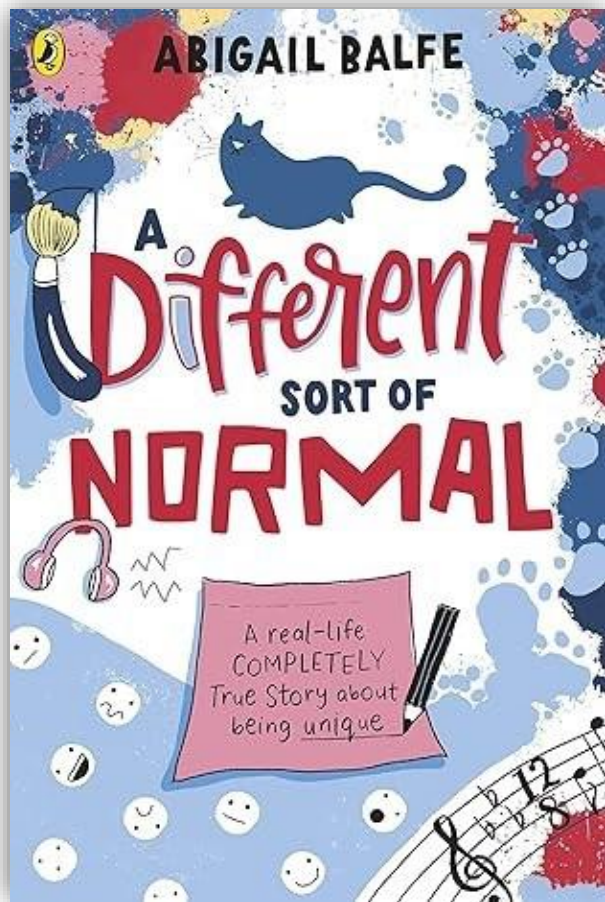
We are incredibly proud of all our budding mathematicians and their achievements. Congratulations once again to everyone who participated!

Mrs Nowak, Maths Department



Bookworm Bulletin

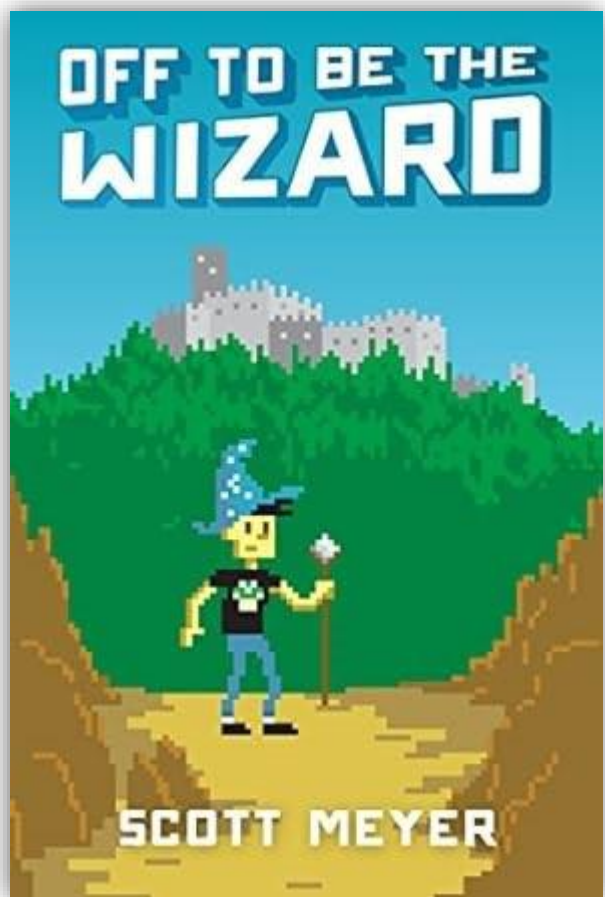
A Different Sort of Normal by Abigail Balfe



This autobiography quickly made its way into my most enjoyed reads. The book touches on many subjects some might describe as 'weird', whereas the brilliant author has conveyed to us that these so called 'disabilities', which people experience injustices for, are really abilities that we get to see the world in such varied lights. It is a story of all the hardships and struggles living with a disability made Abigail's life hard, and yet she pushed through and found the bright side of her issues and turned it into something she is proud of. Doing so displays how this affected her family and how they supported her through her autism diagnosis, even though the road wasn't always smooth. The book covers everything from sexual orientation, to irrational fears, to puberty and how that changes with each period of her life. It ultimately caught my attention because using the words 'different' and 'normal' in the same sentence are not two words that often collide (plus cats!). This book appeals to anyone who feels negative about their own disabilities or personality, or anyone who just feels generally insecure with themselves. Overall this book helped me learn to accept myself and I want other people to learn that same message.

Bethany 9J

Off to be the Wizard by Scott Meyer



Off to Be the Wizard by Scott Meyer is a tech and time travel adventure with a lot of magic thrown in. The story follows Martin Banks, a regular guy and computer geek who in his boring low-level data entry job, stumbles across a mysterious file that controls every detail of reality—from gravity and location to the amount of money in his bank account. Naturally, he hacks it. But when the authorities catch on to him going on a spending spree and chase him to his parents' house, Martin escapes to somewhere they definitely can't catch him... medieval England. There, he poses as a wizard, using his knowledge of coding to perform "magic." But he suddenly finds out that he isn't the only one with the same idea and soon, Martin is up against rival wizards, time-traveling trouble, and having to face the "trials" or be returned to his own time, and delivered right to the authorities. Martin needs to learn fast...

Mr Fovargue, Head of Computer Science

Carnegie Shadowing Book Club Update

Last week in Carnegie Book Group, we discussed two nominated books; Treacle Town and Glasgow Boys, over biscuits.

Glasgow Boys by Margaret McDonald is about two boys with roots in the Scottish care system and their journeys of personal growth and blossoming relationships. Starkly different but still worth a read is Treacle Town by Brian Conaghan, an older read about a boy living in a town overrun with gang violence, overcoming the expectations for him and his peers by discovering slam poetry. The title 'Treacle Town' refers to the difficulty for anyone, young or old, to escape these places, which are shockingly common in the UK.

Due to the mature themes and strong language in these books, we argued the suitability of these novels for younger readers within the School. We would personally recommend these books to Year 9 and above, with them being aware of the difficult topics within the novels before reading.

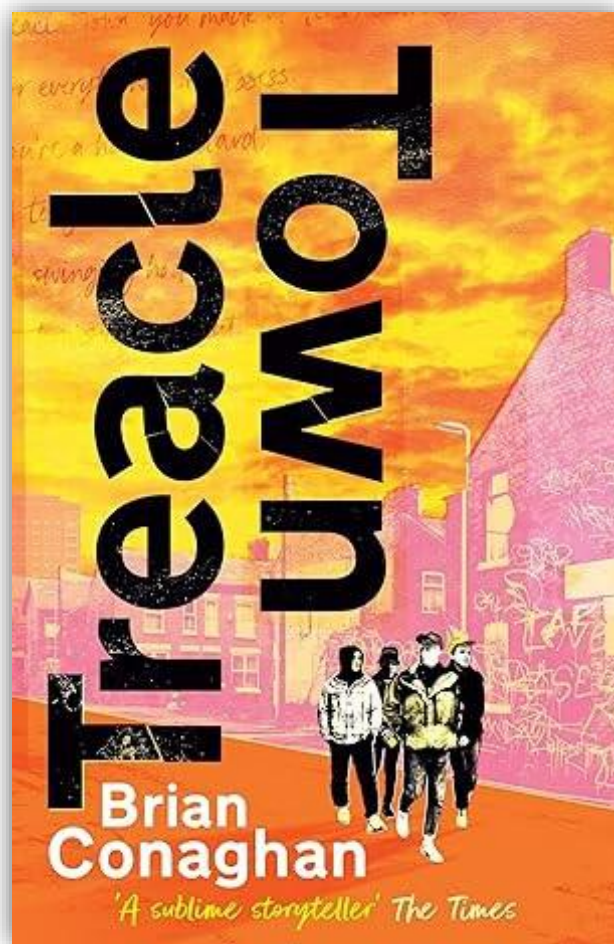


Image sources: Amazon.com

The Carnegie Book Group is great fun. It's an amazing way to meet new people, discover unique new books and also eat biscuits. Come along to the Library at 1:25pm on Tuesday 1st July to advocate for your favourite in the balloon debate!

Connie and Emily W 9J

Sixth Form News

On Thursday 12th June, myself and the other A Level Drama students along with Mrs Fisk travelled to The Crucible Theatre in Sheffield to watch a performance of 'Bluebelle' by the theatre company 'theatre re'.

The show consisted of a small cast and contained special effects using light, numerous moments of physical and interpretive movement, tension created by casted shadows and hanging props which were lowered and raised to create an incredible atmosphere for each scene. There was also live music constantly played by musicians positioned on the sides of the stage. After the incredible performance, we got to speak to some of the cast as well as the director, who came over to chat to Mrs Fisk and ourselves. We then took a scenic walk back to the minibus and made our way home. The performance was excellent and gave us so many ideas to incorporate into our component one performance in a week's time.

Sophie McGuire 6LH



Front Cover Competition

Could you be the artist of the front cover for Edition 9 of the High Quarterly?

We are launching a competition to design the front cover of the Summer '25 Edition of HQ. Entries can use a variety of media or photographic techniques and will be judged by the High School Art Department.

Your entry must be your own personal work and can be colour or black and white but must be A4 in size and portrait orientation. Your entry should have your name and form on the reverse.

Hand your entry in to the School Reception, no later than **Friday 27th June 2025**.

Judging will take place in the week of Monday 30th June, and the winner will receive not just the prestige of having their artwork adorn the next edition, but also a wonderful prize!

Runners up will also receive prizes and their artwork will be published in the summer edition of the HQ.

M K Anderson, Headmistress



HAPPY HOLIDAYS



English News

The Henry Williamson Society

Please see below a flyer for The Henry Williamson Society Schools' Writing Competition for Y8 and 9 students.

Mrs Lord, Head of English



The Henry Williamson Society

SCHOOLS' WRITING COMPETITION 2025

For the attention of the Head of English

Theme: Nature-themed writing reporting for a school magazine, newspaper article, digital blog or holiday brochure

Entrants to choose *one* of these titles:

'A Favourite Nature Walk'

'A Gull's Life'

Age Group: Years 8 and 9

Closing date: 27 June 2025

Prize money:

To the school of the winning entrant – £500

To the winner – £100

To the two runners-up – £50 each

**Details and source materials available from our website
www.henrywilliamson.co.uk**

Entries by post only, sent to the address below

The Henry Williamson Society
c/o Louise McGlone
5 Framfield Place
Hammonds Green
Framfield
Uckfield
TN22 5QH

Enquiries to the above address, or email: competition@henrywilliamson.co.uk

Careers News

Year 12 Work Experience – 30th June – 4th July

Year 12 students will be out on work experience 30th June – 4th July. If any students are not at a placement for the full five days, they will be expected to be in school where they will be able to complete virtual work experience activities and continue to work on personal statements and progression route planning with me.

University Applications for Year 12 students

We will be attending the UCAS Discovery Event at the University of Lincoln on 26th June where students will be able to meet representatives from a range of universities and employers:

[UCAS Discovery Lincoln 2025 | UCAS](#)

I will be assisting students who wish to apply to university with their online applications in the coming weeks and students have already started work on personal statement writing, which is recommended for all students, not just those applying to university. We hope that parents/carers will support students with applications and personal statement writing. Guidance on the new-style personal statement can be found here:

[The new personal statement for 2026 entry | UCAS](#)

A useful guide for parents/carers to learn more about university is produced by UniTasterDays.com:

[The Parents Guide to University](#)

Aspiring Dentistry and Pharmacy Careers Events

Please see the flyers at the end of the newsletter for details. If students apply and gain a place, could they please let me know.

Choices Magazine for Parents/Carers

Please see the Choices Magazine QR code in the 'information for Parents/Carers' section in the Careers area on the school website to sign up to this monthly publication with information, guidance and tips about apprenticeships and technical education.

'What next at 16?'

The Careers and Enterprise Company has produced a comprehensive guide about pathways for students aged 16 and above with information relevant to our geographical area. Please see the 'Information for Parents/Carers' and the 'Information for Students' sections in the Careers area on the school website.

Webinar: 'Finished Year 11 or Year 13 and want to find an apprenticeship?'

Amazing Apprenticeships is hosting a webinar on 7th July 3.30-4.00pm for students in Years 11 and 13 who are interested in finding out more about apprenticeships. Students and/or parents/carers can sign up:

[Webinar Registration - Zoom](#)

Support:

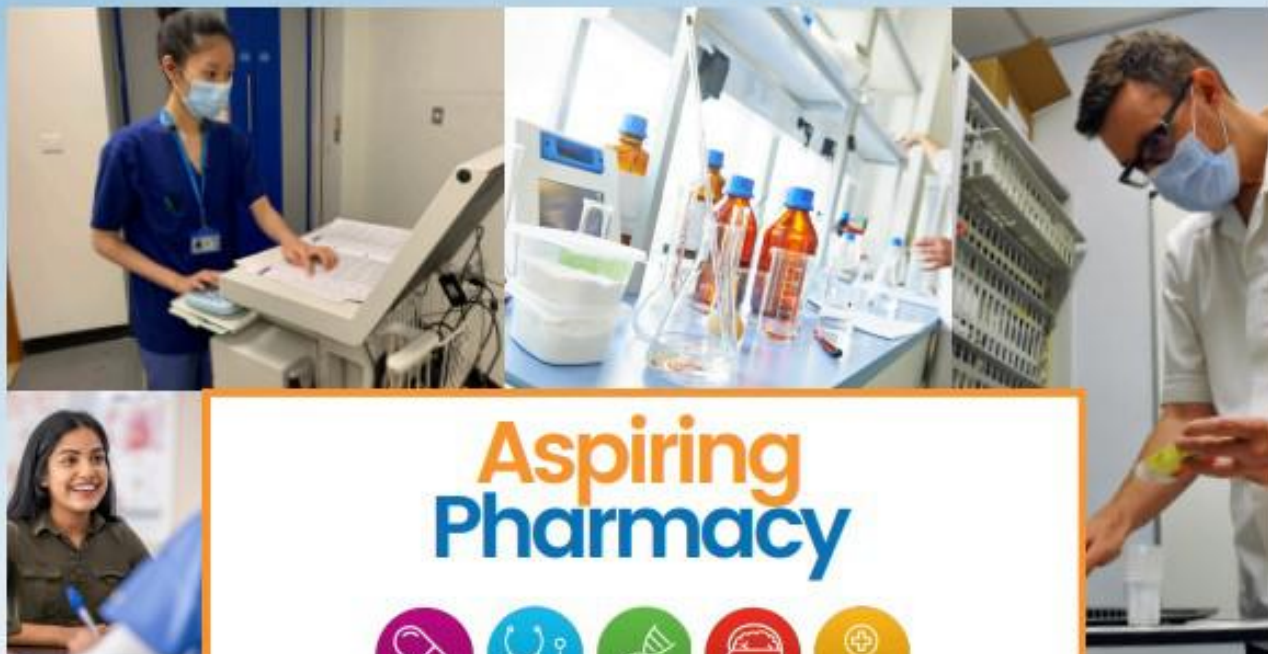
As always, I can be contacted by email if parents or students in any year group have any queries:

Dawn.bushell@spaldinghigh.lincs.sch.uk

Mrs Bushell, Careers Leader



Lincolnshire
Talent Academy



Aspiring Pharmacy



Explore a career that positively impacts people's lives by treating illness and supporting healthy lifestyles.

Open to individuals aged 16 to 19 years. This event provides an opportunity to explore the various roles and specialisms within Pharmacy through interactive workshops and informative talks led by industry experts. The experience also includes a half-day work experience placement, providing a practical insight into the field.

Lincoln County Hospital

Wednesday 23 July, 9am - 12pm

Half-day work experience placement on the 23 or 24 July

Registration closes at 4pm on 14 July

TALENT ACADEMY

Inspiring Futures : Informing Careers

Register Today!

lincstalentacademy.org.uk/events

